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THE JESUITES Firing-PLOT Revived:

Or, A

Warning to Houſe-Keepers.

Being the Full and true Relation *how* Elizabeth Owen, *on the* 8th *of this Inſtant* November, *ſet fire to the Houſe of one Mr.* Cooper, *living in Fleetſtreet between S.* Dunſtans *Church and Fetter-lane-end: ſhe being a Servant in the ſaid Houſe.*

With an Account how ſhe broke open and robbed ſeveral Trunks, into which ſhe put ſeveral lighted Candles, which fired both the Rafters and Floors of the Garrets. With the Manner how it came to be diſcovered: and her Cloathes found ready bundled up among other things. As alſo her Examination, Confeſſion and Commitment to Newgate, *in order to her Tryal.*

THough *Rome* has been ſo often baffled in her weak and ſhallow Contrivances, yet her Agents think it not convenient to give over, although in every Deſign and new Contrivance, their Malice and Folly is made to appear, to the Abhorrence and Deteſtation of all ſober and civil Perſons; nor can they prevail to Work upon any but Poor contemptible Proſelites, whom they by the powerful Charms of Gain, do bring into Snares: that ſo their work may be perfected, though to their utter Ruin, as

may be obſerved in the many Firing Plots the cunning Jeſuites have of late Contrived; in which for the moſt part they Employ ſilly Servant-Maides, promiſing them after the pernicious Work is done, that they ſhall receive much Wealth: which makes them go Boldy on to perpetrate the horrid Deed: But then being taken by the Hand of Juſtice, they are left in great Confuſion and Amazement, not knowing where to find the Man that did Enjoyn them their deſtructive Task.

An Inſtance of which may be plainly ſeen, in a late unlucky Miſchief which happened to the Houſe of Mr. *Cooper*, commonly known by the Name of the *Suſſex*-Houſe, near to *Fetter*-Lane end, in *Fleet*-ſtreet: The manner of which was as followeth, About a Month ſince Mr. *Cooper* having an occaſion for a Servant-Maid, by reaſon of the departure of his former, was by a Friend of his VViſhed to one *Elizabeth Owen* who had of late dwelt in *Grace-Church*-ſtreet and upon his Friends Recommendation he accordingly Entertained her in his Houſe, in nature of his Servant; She behaving her ſelf ſeemingly well, and never was obſerved to have any one follow her, unleſs one young Man, whom ſhe called *Cozen*, pretending he was her Uncles Son: on *Sunday* laſt being the ſeventh of this Inſtant *November*, her Miſtriſs and ſhe had a ſmall falling-out, about the Dreſſing of a Dinner, and ſome Words paſt, but in no likelyhood of ſuch force as to prompt her on to ſuch a deſperate Revenge, the Feude being reaſonably pacified; She went about her VVork as at other times ſhe was wont to do, continuing very Chearful all *Sunday* after, and likewiſe *Monday*, which was the Day, wherein ſhe Acted the horrid Deed. About nine of the Clock in the Evening, ſhe was obſerved to go up Stairs, at which time, as She ſince did not greatly deny, and by Circumſtances does plainly Appear. She went into the Garret where the Tapſter of the Houſe Lay, and with a Bunch of Keys that were afterwards found about her, opened ſeveral Trunks, in which were Cloathes which ſhe took out and bundled up, putting ſeveral of her own amongſt them: After that with ſeveral Candles (the Tallow of which being found melted on the Floor) ſhe ſet the Trunks on Fire, placing them where ſhe thought they ſooneſt would take hold of the Timber. This being done and ſhe ſeeing them to begin to Blaize, went down Stairs, and placed her ſelf in the Barr, this being between Ten and Eleven of the Clock: when immediately the Smoak came down Stairs, of which e'r any beſides thoſe of the Houſe ſmelt it, She began to complain of, ſaying, That there was an intolerable Smoak, which almoſt put her Eyes

Eyes out. VVhereupon her Miſtriſs Anſwered, She ſaw no ſuch mighty Smoak as ſhe pretended: But if there was any ſhe believed, That it proceeded from the Burning of Faggots in the Chamber over Head. There having been ſome Gentle-men of her Acquaintance lately in the ſame. But the Wench perſiſted, That it could not come from thence, but that the Houſe ſhe feared, was on Fire, or Words to that effect; the Smoak ſtill encreaſing more and more, They were induced to Believe there had ſome miſchief indeed hapned, or that ſome Brand roaling out of the Chimney, might have taken hold of the Hangings, ſo that running up Stairs, they went into the Room where the Fire had been made, but found all things in good Order: When looking farther they obſerved a Smoak to come down the other pair of Stairs, that were yet higher: So that when they went up them, they found the Garrets all on Fire, being fired in ſeveral places, and that in one place it had Burnt quite through the Floor, into the Chamber underneath: Whereupon they immediately called for help, which was not long e'r they had ſufficient from their Neighbours; and through Providence in a ſhort time Maſtered that Raging Element which then began to Blaze through the Roof of the Houſe: And, Heaven knows, had it not been ſo ſtayed, it being amongſt Old Buildings, what harm it might have done, or where have ended.

After the Fire was beaten down, and the hurry was over, they began to ſearch into the Cauſe of it, or how it ſhould happen, which they long had not done, before they found, as we have already mentioned, ſeveral parcels of Greace, which come from the melted Candles, and that the Trunkes being firſt opened were ſet on Fire, which being light and dry, had Fired the reſt. Both the Garrets being Fired in ſeveral places, the Trunks Burnt to Aſhes, but the Aſhes of no Woollen Apparel found amongſt the reſt; Which made them Enquire what might become of the VVoollen that was in them, and upon farther ſearch found that it was thrown out at the VVindow, into a little Paved Yard, and as it is before-mentioned many of *Eliſabeth Owen's* own Cloathes packt up amongſt them, which cauſed her Maſter and Miſtriſs to ſuſpect her as Guilty of Firing their Houſe: And thereupon by the Advice of ſeveral Neighbours, They Cauſed her to be Apprehended, and for that Night ſecured, the next Morning She was carried before the Right VVorſhipful Sir *William Turner* Alderman and Juſtice of the Peace, for the City of *London*: VVho Examined her ſtrictly in all Points, but could not get nothing out of

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her, She being of a ſullen dogged Temper; only ſhe did Declare to ſome Perſons of VVorth and Credit, that ſhe did not deſign the Fire ſhould have begun ſo ſoon, but that it ſhould have been much longer e'r it had kindled, ſo that it might have Surpriſed her Maſter and Miſtriſs, with all the reſt of the Family, her ſelf only excepted, and have Burnt them in their Beds, ſo horrid and deſperate was her Helliſh Deſign. After a long Examination She was Committed to *Newgate*, where ſhe now remains. Not long after She was Committed, her pretended Cozen came to look for her; Who, perhaps had he been taken and narrowly ſifted, might have proved the Jeſuite or the Jeſuites Agent, that Employed her to Act this deſperate Exploit and horrid Villany.

FINIS.

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